

the National Research Council (NRC) is assessing techniques for removing fixed offshore structures. The assessment will determine the occupational hazards and environmental effects of removal processes, determine techniques to mitigate undesirable effects, and appraise current regulations governing the removal of platforms and structures located in the OCS. The study will evaluate both explosive and nonexplosive removal techniques. The MMS is seeking comments concerning methods for removing offshore structures, their hazards and effects, and mitigating strategies. The MMS offers the following information and questions to assist you in your response to this notice.

Requirements for Removal

1. Current regulations require that lessees remove all structures to a depth of 15 feet below the mud line. The MMS is inviting the public, including other users of ocean space (boaters, fishers, conservationists, etc.) to comment on the need for this requirement and to bring to the attention of the NRC committee any information that MMS should consider in assessing and updating this requirement.

Status of Technology

2. What are the alternatives to the removal of offshore structures?
3. What new approaches or improvements to existing techniques for removing offshore structures are in development?
4. What are the requirements and/or limitations of the existing or new techniques relative to different water depths or soil types?

Economic Costs

5. What are the comparative costs of explosive versus nonexplosive techniques for removing offshore structures?
6. Are new technologies in development likely to alter the comparative economics of alternative approaches?

Hazards

7. What are the environmental hazards of explosive and nonexplosive removal techniques?
8. What are the occupational hazards of explosive and nonexplosive removal techniques?

Impacts

9. What are the direct and indirect impacts on living marine resources (fish, marine mammals, sea turtles, etc.) from explosive removal of offshore structures (for example:

direct=mortality, injury, indirect=damage to habitats, damage to overall health and survivability, etc.)?

10. What are the direct and indirect impacts of living marine resources from nonexplosive removal of offshore structures?

11. How do alternative removal techniques affect other users of the marine environment (fishers, recreational boaters, ship operators, others)?

Regulations

12. Do other users of the marine environment have needs that MMS should take into account in regulations for full or partial platform removal and for site clearance?

13. Are existing MMS regulations and operating rules governing the removal of offshore structures adequate?

Dated: January 25, 1995.

Thomas M. Gernhofer,

Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 95-2376 Filed 1-31-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

National Park Service

FES 95-1

Environmental Statements Availability; Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Final Comprehensive Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190, as amended), the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, has prepared a Final Comprehensive Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FCMP/FEIS) that describes and analyzes a proposed action and three alternatives for the future management and use of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, Minnesota.

The Draft Comprehensive Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement was released for public review on July 5, 1993 (58 FR 32546), and the public comment period closed October 11, 1993. During this period, four public hearings were held; written comments also were received. The FCMP/FEIS contains responses to the comments received and modifications to the text as needed in response to the comments.

The proposed action and alternatives all have been designed to preserve, protect, and enhance the significant values of the waters and land of the Mississippi River corridor within the Saint Paul-Minneapolis metropolitan area. They differ primarily in approach to overall management emphasis and level of federal involvement.

The proposed action provides a framework to balance and coordinate natural, cultural, and economic resource protection, visitor use, and sustainable development activities. It minimizes adverse effects on the river corridor and conflicts between users while providing for a broad spectrum of land and water uses and managed growth. Corridor management policies would be applied in a practical manner, with individual communities retaining flexibility to respond to unusual situations in special ways, providing that the resources identified in Public Law 100-696, the unit's enabling legislation, are protected. The proposed action emphasizes the importance of biological diversity in the corridor. It also recognizes the importance of economic activities and provides for the commercial use of the corridor consistent with P.L. 100-696. Commercial navigation activities would be continued. A wide range of visitor use activities would be encouraged. The National Park Service would have a lead role in coordinating interpretation for the corridor.

Alternative A (no action) would continue existing resource protection activities, land and water management, and visitor use programs. No overall comprehensive plan would be adopted. Local communities would continue to manage the river with minimal coordination and cooperation. Political boundaries would continue to delineate different management regulations, and the 72-mile segment of the Mississippi River would be managed according to different plans.

Alternative B would place a greater emphasis on resource protection, more restrictive land management, and passive recreation activities. Efforts for resource protection would be coordinated between the National Park Service and existing state, federal, and local programs, with the National Park Service taking the lead on protection of natural and cultural resources.

Alternative C would place greater emphasis on the use and development potential of the corridor; increased tourism and new commercial and industrial development would be encouraged to a greater degree. There would be less land management activity in alternative C, and visitor activities

would emphasize more active recreation. Nationally significant resources would be protected under existing laws, regulations, and policies, and they would be marketed more intensively to stimulate visitation.

Major impact topics assessed for the proposed action and alternatives include cultural resources, economic environment, commercial navigation, water resources, air quality, soil and vegetation, threatened and endangered species, and recreational use.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, 175 East Fifth Street, Suite 418, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101; (612) 290-4160

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the FCMP/FEIS will be available at the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area headquarters at the above address. In addition, public reading copies of the FCMP/FEIS will be available for inspection at libraries located in the Twin Cities metropolitan area; the Department of the Interior Library; the National Park Service Public Affairs Office, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240; and at the Midwest Regional Office, National Park Service, 1709 Jackson Street, Omaha, NE 68102. In addition, all Federal Repository libraries will receive copies.

The 30-day no action period will end on February 20, 1995. A record of decision will follow the 30-day no action period.

Dated: January 13, 1995.

Willie R. Taylor,

Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 95-2375 Filed 1-31-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

Acadia National Park Bar Harbor, Maine; Acadia National Park Advisory Commission; Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770, 5 U.S.C. Ap. 1, Sec. 10), that the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission will hold a meeting on Monday, February 27, 1995.

The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 99-420, Sec. 103. The purpose of the commission is to consult with the Secretary of the Interior, or his designee, on matters relating to the management and development of the park, including but not limited to the acquisition of lands and interests in lands (including conservation easements on islands) and

termination of rights of use and occupancy.

The meeting will convene park headquarters, Acadia National Park, Rt. 233, Bar Harbor, Maine, at 1:00 p.m. to consider the following agenda:

1. Review and approval of minutes from the meeting held December 12, 1994.
2. Report of the Conservation Easement Subcommittee.
3. Report of the Acquisition Subcommittee.
4. Superintendent's report.
5. Public comments.
6. Proposed agenda and date of next Commission meeting.

The meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may make oral/written presentations to the Commission or file written statements. Such requests should be made to the Superintendent at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Further information concerning this meeting may be obtained from the Superintendent, Acadia National Park, P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609, tel: (207) 288-3338.

Dated: January 24, 1995.

Chrysandra L. Walter,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 95-2372 Filed 1-31-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

Niobrara Scenic River Advisory Commission Meeting

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets the schedule for the forthcoming meeting of the Niobrara Scenic River Advisory Commission. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463).

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Thursday, March 2, 1995; 1:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Cherry County Court House, Valentine, Nebraska.

Agenda topics include: Follow up discussion of commission from the land protection workshop held in December; update by the National Park Service on the General Management Plan; Advisory Commission review of the summary of comments from the June, 1994 newsletter; Advisory Commission review of the Research Summary of the "Characteristics, use patterns, and perception of floaters on the Niobrara National Scenic River: Selected findings of a 1993 study"; progress of zoning in the four counties; reports from counties; proposed agenda, date, time, and location of the next Commission meeting, and the opportunity for public comment.

The meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may make oral/written presentation to the Commission or file written statements. Requests for time for making presentations may be made to the Superintendent prior to the meeting or to the Chair at the beginning of the meeting. In order to accomplish the agenda for the meeting, the Chair may want to limit or schedule public presentations.

The meeting will be recorded for documentation and a summary in the form of minutes will be transcribed for dissemination. Minutes of the meeting will be made available to the public after approval by the Commission members. Copies of the minutes may be requested by contacting the Superintendent. An audio tape of the meeting will be available at the headquarters office of the Niobrara/Missouri National Scenic Riverways in O'Neill, NE.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 102-50, section 5. The purpose of the Commission is to consult with the Secretary of the Interior, or his designee, on matters pertaining to the development of a management plan, and on the management and operation of the 40 mile and 30 mile segments of the Niobrara River designated by section 2 of Public Law 102-50 which lie outside the boundary of the Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge and that segment of the Niobrara River from its confluence with Chimney Creek to its confluence with Rock Creek.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Warren Hill, Superintendent, Niobrara/Missouri National Scenic Riverways, P.O. Box 591, O'Neill, Nebraska 68763-0591, (402) 336-3970, or the Chairman, Robert Hilske, 526 E. 1st. Street, Valentine, NE 69201, (402) 336-3119.

Dated: January 18, 1995.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 95-2373 Filed 1-31-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

Bureau of Reclamation

Quarterly Status Report of Water Service and Repayment; Contract Negotiations

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

AGENCY: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of proposed contractual actions pending through December 31, 1995, and contract actions that have been